Setting up of a telephone exchange at Jaunpur, U.P.

811. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision had been taken to set up a telephone exchange at Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh and equipment was also brought for the purpose;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for which the equipment has been taken away from that city;

(c) whether Government are aware of grievances of the subscribers and delay in their disposal because the regional office is far away in Mirzapur; and

(d) whether it is proposed to be shifted to Jaunpur or a more senior officer is proposed to be posted there.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) An automatic telephone exchange is already working at Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) An officer of the rank of SDO Telegraphs is posted at Jaunpur. No other higher rank officer is presently justified as per department's norms and standards.

Waiting list of telephone connection in Tamil Nadu

812. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of persons in waiting list for telephone connections category-wise, in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) by when the waiting list is likely to be cleared?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Waiting List as on 31.1.1992.

(i) OYT	19,791
(ii) Non-OYT-Special	15,651
(iii) Non-OYT General	193,372
TOTAL	228,820

(b) As per draft 8th Plan proposals expansion programme are being drawn with an objective:

— to provide telephone connections practically on demand in rural and tribal areas;

— waiting period for telephone connections not to exceed two years at other places.

Accordingly, the persons on the waiting list will be provided telephone connections progressively during the 8th Plan.

Expansion of telecom projects

813. SHRI PRABHAKAR B. KORE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited has drawn up any plan to accelerate the pace of expansion of telecom projects;

(b) if so, how many electronic exchange lines will be added in this year;

(c) by what time the waiting list will be finished in Delhi and other States particularly in Karnataka; and

(d) whether Government are planning to increase the number of free calls and also rate of per call?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.